

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 01529 101836Z

51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-15 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /136 W

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P R 100530Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5579

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

USUN NEW YORK 0166

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1529

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DM, IS

SUBJECT: MRGD BREAKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

1. RADIO DAHOMEY ANNOUNCED NIGHT OF OCTOBER 9 DECISION OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MRGD COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. FEW HOURS BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENT, ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ADRE ATCHADE TELEPHONED ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DRORY TO INFORM HIM OF THIS DECISION AND TO REQUEST THAT EMBASSY PERSONNEL DEPART AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DRORY TOLD ME HE PLANS TO HAVE ALL PERSONNEL OUT OF COUNTRY BEFORE END OF MONTH, BY WHICH TIME HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER DETAILS OF CLOSING EMBASSY.

2. OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE STATES RELATIONS SEVERED BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S INTRANSIGENCE OVER APPLYING RESOLUTION 242, REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW HIS TROOPS FROM OCCUPIED "AFRICAN AND ARAB TERRITORIES", AND NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS APPEALS FROM ALL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY OAU. COMMUNIQUE ALSO NOTES RESPONSIBILITY OF GREAT POWERS FOR MIDDLE EAST IMPASSE.

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3. COMMENT: DRORY BELIEVES, AND WE AGREE THAT ZAIRE'S BREAK

OCTOBER 5 WITH ISRAEL ENCOURAGED THIS DECISION, WHICH WAS
PROBABLY ALREADY BEING CONSIDERED AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER 26
(PARA 2 OF COTONOU 1486). THERE IS
ALSO UNCONFIRMED REPORT RE-
CEIVED SINCE SENDING COTONOU 1486 THAT IN LATE SEPTEMBER MRGD
MAY HAVE RECEIVED ASSURANCES OF FINANCIAL AID FROM LIBYA, SAUDI
ARABIA OR ALGERIA IN RETURN FOR BREAK WITH ISRAEL. WE ARE ATTEMPT-
VERIFY REPORT
ANDERSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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